(b) whether men in uniform have also got such training in Austria or other countries, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is also proposed to set up modernized high altitude training schools in our country utilizing the services of trained Army officials, if so, the details of this project?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Our armed forces are not proposed to be given exposure to skiing training in the Swiss Alps and high altitudes. Skiing and High altitudes training received in Austria in the form of courses is as under:—

(i) Alpine Training and High Altitude Combat Courses by two officers in January- February 1999.

(ii) Skiing Training Basic Course by two officers in January 2002.

(iii) Assistant Military Mountain Guide Winter Course by two officers in March 2002.

The Army already has a high altitude training school *i.e.* High Altitude Warfare School (HAWS) at Gulmarg, Kashmir. The services of the Army personnel who have been trained abroad are utilized in HAWS.

Finalisation of AJT deal

146. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:
SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Advance Jet Trainers being inducted in the Indian Air Force;

(b) whether the deal has been finalised; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Government have decided to induct Advance Jet Trainers but no deal has been finalised as yet.